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**PATENT**

Attorney Docket No. 03495.0010-17000

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

MARC ALIZON et al.

Serial No.: 08/177,920

Filed: January 6, 1994

For: DIAGNOSTIC KITS AND METHODS )  
FOR DETECTING THE PRESENCE )  
OF HUMAN IMMUNODEFICIENCY )  
VIRUS TYPE 1 (HIV-1) (as )  
amended) )

Group Art Unit: 1813

Examiner: J. Stucker

Honorable Commissioner of Patents  
and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE**  
**STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)**

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the document listed on the attached PTO form. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits for the above-referenced application.

A copy of the listed document is attached.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider this document and indicate that it was considered by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

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GROUP 1813

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that the listed document is material or constitutes "prior art." If the Examiner applies the document as prior art against any claim in the application and applicants determine that the cited document does not constitute "prior art" under United States law, applicants reserve the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of the document.

Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed document, should the document be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,  
GARRETT & DUNNER

By: Michele M. Schafer  
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Date: October 24, 1994